

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 06715 241532Z

43

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 SAJ-01 OMB-01 AID-20 ACDA-19 MBFR-03 IO-13

RSR-01 /164 W

----- 044875

R 241431Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9559

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA

CONFIDENTIAL TEL AVIV 6715

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IS, MT

SUBJECT: ISRAEL AND MALTA

REF: VALLETTA 1691

1. MEROZ, ASSIST DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR EUROPE OF FOREIGN
MINISTRY, TOLD EMBOFF AUGUST 22 IT WAS TRUE THAT ISRAELI LABOR
PARTY HAD FIRMLY RESOLVED AGAINST ANY PARTICIPATION IF MALTA
WERE VENUE FOR SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL.

2. BY WAY OF EXPLANATION MEROZ DISPLAYED JULY 13 ISSUE OF TIMES
OF MALTA, IN WHICH MINTOFF WAS QUOTED INDIRECTLY AS SAYING IN PARLIA-
MENT THAT

(A) GOM HAD TOLD ISRAELIS IT WAS TRUE ISRAELIS HAD GIVEN ARABS A
BEATING, "BUT IF THEY DID NOT WANT MALTESE GOVERNMENT TO CONSIDER
THEM LIKE HITLER BECAUSE FORCE WAS ON THEIR SIDE, THEY SHOULD NOT
INSIST ON HUMILIATING THE ARABS AND SHOULD NOT INSIST ON RECOGNITION
BEFORE STARTING DISCUSSIONS"

(B) "ISRAEL SHOULD BE REASONABLE AND SHOULD NOT CONTINUE TO PROVOKE
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PAGE 02 TEL AV 06715 241532Z

THE ARABS. BUT ONE COULD NOT REASON IF ONE HAD PEOPLE LIKE DAYAN

AND THE OTHER MADMEN"

(C) "THEY (PALESTINIANS) HAD A RIGHT TO THEIR FATHERLAND, BUT THEY HAD FOUND NO HELPING HAND FROM ANY QUARTER. IF HE (MINTOFF) WERE A PALESTINIAN, HE WOULD HAVE BEEN A GUERRILLA FIGHTER FOR HIS COUNTRY AND WOULD HAVE BEEN HIJACKING AIRCRAFT TO ATTRACT WORLD ATTENTION."

3. MEROZ SAID ISRAEL HAD MADE DEMARCHE TO GOM OVER REPORTED MINTOFF REMARKS BUT HAD RECEIVED NO REACTION. ISRAELI-MALTESE RELATIONS SINCE 1972 HAD STEADILY DWINDLED AND NOW WERE AT ROCK BOTTOM. MEROZ VOICED OPINION THAT MINTOFF WAS MENTALLY UNBALANCED.

KEATING

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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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